

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-2 and 4-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 21 and 23-31 are amended and claim 32 is added. No new matter is added by these amendments. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Avellino at the interview held February 13, 2008 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Claims 1-2 and 4-31 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0046065 to Furukawa et al. (hereinafter "Furukawa") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0097425 to Chen and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,122,483 to Lo et al. (hereinafter "Lo"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Concerning claim 1, Furukawa, Chen and Lo do not support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that they do not disclose or suggest, a first device that transmits first data containing a second multicast address through the network using a first address which does not specify a destination, as called for in claim 1. Independent claims 21 and 23-31 recite at least one of the above-mentioned features or a similar feature.

The Office Action, on page 4, admits that Furukawa and Chen fail to disclose the above-mentioned features.

As agreed upon by the Examiner during the personal interview, Lo discloses in col. 4, lines 34-67 and col. 5 lines 1-3 that the NCC 102 upon receiving the acknowledge signals from the identified subscribers 106 A, C, F, H, transmits using the specific addresses of the identified subscribers, the assigned multicast message channels to be used. Therefore, the first device (NCC 102) does not transmit the second multicast address to a non-specified

destination (all subscribers 106 A-J), but instead only transmits the second multicast address to the specific destination of responding subscribers 106 A, C, F, H. Thus, Lo fails to overcome the deficiencies of Furukawa and Chen.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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